

Senate Democrats plan to put forward an immigration proposal this week, with President Barack Obama telling Hispanic lawmakers that he intends to push legislation as quickly as possible.

Obama this week will begin a public campaign to build support for an immigration package that will include a pathway to citizenship for the country's 11 million undocumented immigrants. A bipartisan group of six senators also plans to release a detailed framework laying out their principals for a bill as soon as the end of this week, Senate aides said.

The president "made it very clear that this is his number- one legislative priority," Democratic Representative Xavier Becerra of California said after meeting last week with Obama at the White House. "In every sense of the word he is in the starting gate."

The immigration proposal will be the centerpiece of the president's planned stop on Jan. 29 in Las Vegas, Nevada, a state that Obama won in the last two elections and where Hispanics make up 27 percent of the population.

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